394. At Babbur the trials of M.A.V., M A. IX, M.A.X, M.A. XI and Co. 4 (A Coimbatore strain) were continued for the third year both during May and November 1950, While M.A.V. maintained its superiority in point of yield. two selections M.A.X and M.A. XI were proved earlier by 2-3 weeks.

395. In addition to routine analysis of soil, fertilisers, plant materials involving more than 400 samples, investigations and trials were continued in respect of optimum placement of phosphatic fertilisers for ragi and sugarcane, phosphatic manuring of green manure crops, nitrogen and phosphate applications to paddy in increasing doses, liming paddy soils, role of trace elements and their influences on crop yields, etc. Scientific work.

396. The seed multiplication and distribution scheme which was the first post-war scheme to be launched by the department for multiplication and distribution of paddy seeds was, with the transfer of the Grow More Food Campaign to the Commissioner for Food Production, transferred to the control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture.

397. A total quantity of 34,392 pallas of seed paddy, 4,985 pallas of seed ragi and 2,399 pallas of seed jowar in addition to 1,032 pallas of Bijapur jowar was procured during the year for distribution which entrusted to the Multipurpose Co-operative Societies.

(iii) Sericulture.

398. The prices of cocoons varied from Rs. 1-9-0 per lb. in October 1950 to as high a price as Rs, 3-4-0 in June 1951. The filature silk prices varied between Rs. 42 and Rs. 54. Conditions were unstable and therefore affected the reeling industry and more particularly filatures. Eighty thousand four hundred and eighty-three pounds of foreign silk valued at Rs. 34·22 lakhs were imported and distributed especially for the benefit of the Silk Handloom Weavers by the department through recognised corporate bodies and the Mysore Provincial Silk Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., which was established in Bangalore in September 1950. The imported silk was released at steady prices irrespective of wide market fluctuations and this benefited the handloom weavers and the consumers. Market Conditions of Silk Industry.

AGRI., CO-OPN. & FORESTS

Mulberry Cultivation.

399. The area under mulberry in the State was about 90,500 (80,000) acres. Of these, nearly 17,000 acres were irrigated and the rest rainfed. With a view to augment production of seed cocoons in summer, the department brought 200 acres possessing irrigation facilities under mulberry cultivation in the Mysore race seed cocoon areas of Kunigal, Sugganahalli and Doddaballapur. In other sericultural taluks also, large extents of land ware being prepared for planting mulberry in 1951-52.

400. The total cultivated area of Government mulberry gardens was 71 acres. There was an over-all improvement in the yield and quality of mulberry leaf in Government gardens. The average cost of production per pound of leaf worked up to 1·6 annas.

401. Rearing operations were carried on in 12 farms including the two Hill Stations. The total output of "Basic" seed cocoons during the year showed an appreciable increase and was 23·48 lakhs of foreign races as against 18·48 lakhs and 4·5 lakhs of Mysore race as against 4·2 lakhs in the previous year. The two Hill Stations produced about 1,28,000 foreign race seed cocoons of very superior quality.

402. There was expansion of mulberry in the Mysore race seed areas of Kunigal, Bidadi, Sugganahally and Doddaballapur. The total acreage at the end of the year was 3,338 (3,053) during the year. The total number of disease-free layings prepared and distributed free of cost to seed cocoon rearers in the seed areas was 23·62 lakhs as against 17·79 lakhs in the previous year. The aggregate output of seed cocoons for the year was about 46 crores. Nearly 27·45 crores of cocoons were utilised for seed purposes by the Government and aided graineurs as well as by the unexamined seed vendors and the Sericultural Department of Madras Government.

403. Five lakhs of "Original" disease-free layings of foreign races were distributed among 520 selected cocoon rearers in the cross-breed rearing tracts of the State during the year.

404. The two Hill Stations on the Biligirirangan Hills and Kemmangundi prepared 25,300 re-invigorated disease-free layings as against 11,222 layings in the previous year.

405. The 20 Government and 115 aided grainages prepared and distributed 211·06 lakhs of disease free layings as against 153·93 lakhs in the previous year.

406. The total estimated demand for seed in the State was about 6·5 crores and the quantity of examined seed made available by the Government and aided grainages represented a little over a third of the entire demand. To bridge this gulf between the demand and supply, a well considered programme of production for all the grainages aimed at securing augmented production was under consideration.

407. To inculcate a spirit of emulation and competition among the aided graineurs, a cash prize of Rs. 250 and a gold medal to be awarded every year to the best aided graineur were sanctioned.

408. Owing to wide variation in the price of seed cocoons and the cost of production of disease-free layings, the sale price was revised from time to time and it was as follows :—

	Cross breed per 100	*Mysore Race per 100.*
	Rs.	Rs. a. p.
1st April to 8th June 1950 ...	5	2-3-0
10th June to 9th July 1950 ...	8	4-0-0
10th July to 30th September 1950...	6	3-0-0
1st October to 31st March 1951 ...	5	2-0-0

409. Practical training was given in the Government Central Farms at Channapatna, Mugur, Sidlaghatta and Kolar to 10 students, one of whom came from Madhya Bharat.

410. Ninety-two cart-loads of green mulberry cuttings and some grafts were supplied from the Government Farms free to sericulturists for planting new gardens. Twenty thousand seedlings and 54,000 cuttings were also supplied for cost price to the Madhya Bharat Department of Sericulture. Eighty tons of groundnut oil cake powder were stocked at the Government Farms and made available to sericulturists at cost price for manuring their gardens.

411. There were 63 propaganda outposts at important sericultural centres in the State. The staff attached to these outposts impressed on the sericulturists the need for following improved scientific methods in the cultivation of mulberry, silkworm rearing and sillk rearing. One hundred acres of land were obtained from the Forest and Revenue

Departments for planting a mulberry garden and construction of Research Institute Buildings.

412. Financed by the Central Silk Board, three cocoon markets were opened at Ramanagaram, Melur (Sidlaghatta Taluk), and Santhemaranahalli (Chamarajanagar Taluk). The inaugural meeting of the Mysore Silk Advisory Committee was held on 10th June 1950.

413. There was some increase in the number of samples tested by the Silk Conditioning and Testing House as compared to that of the previous year. One hundred and twenty-seven samples of silk sent by the Government Silk Filature, Kankanhalli, and the Sericultural Research Section were tested. Tests were also conducted in respect of 197 samples of cocoons reared in the sericultural section.

414. The department participated in the Dasara Exhibition at Mysore and the Mysore Congress Exhibition and the Indian Science Congress Exhibition at Bangalore. Demonstrations in silk worm rearing and silkreeling with the improved charka were given. Bulletins describing the activities of the department were distributed.

415. The Mysore District Sericulturists' Conference was held at Santhemaranahalli (Chamarajanagar Taluk) in August 1950 and it was assisted by the department in its deliberations.

416. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 4·32 lakhs.

417 One unit of "Multi-end Standing Reeling Basin" imported from Japan by the Central Silk Board was installed at the T.-Narsipur Factory of the Mysore Silk Filatures, Ltd., and its working was demonstrated under the expert supervision of Mr. Taro Tananka, the Japanese Reeling Expert. There appear to be great possibilities of effecting economy and improvement in production in Mysore filatures by adopting this modern appliance.

(iv) Department of Animal Husbandry Services in Mysore.

418. The seasonal conditions were fairly satisfactory throughout the State during the year. Fodder and water were available in all the Districts, excepting in Bangarpet